

H. Res. 566

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

October 20, 1998.

Whereas the water resources of the Great Lakes Basin are precious public natural resources, shared and held in trust by the Great Lakes States and the Canadian Provinces;

Whereas the Great Lakes need to be carefully managed and protected in order to meet current and future water needs within the Great Lakes Basin and the Canadian Provinces;

Whereas any new diversions of Great Lakes waters for use outside of the Great Lakes Basin will have significant adverse effects on the environment, economy, and welfare of the Great Lakes region;

Whereas the Province of Ontario, Canada, has authorized an Ontario company to divert water from the Great Lakes for sale to Asia;

Whereas 4 of the Great Lakes contain international waters, and are defined as “boundary waters” in the Boundary Waters Treaty of 1909 between the United States and Canada, and therefore any new diversion of Great Lakes water would affect the relations between the Government of the United States and the Government of Canada;

Whereas as trustees of the Great Lakes Basin's natural resources, the Great Lakes States and Provinces have a shared duty to protect, conserve, and manage the renewable but finite waters of the Great Lakes Basin for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of all their citizens, and future generations; and

Whereas the most effective means of protecting, conserving, and managing the water resources of the Great Lakes is through the joint pursuit of unified and cooperative principles, policies, and programs mutually agreed upon, enacted, and adhered to by each and every Great Lakes State and Province: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That it is the sense of the House of Rep-
 2 resentatives that the President and the Senate should act
 3 to prevent the sale or diversion of Great Lakes water to
 4 foreign countries, businesses, corporations, and individuals
 5 until procedures are established to guarantee that any
 6 such sale or diversion is fully negotiated and approved by
 7 representatives of the United States Government and the
 8 Government of Canada, in consultation with any Great
 9 Lakes State or Province that could be impacted by such
 10 a sale or diversion.

Attest:

Clerk.